

IN SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

JUNE 12, 1848.

Submitted, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. JOHNSON, of Louisiana, made the following

REPORT:

[To accompany bill S. No. 279.]

*The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of John Leroy, submit the following report:*

The petitioner, while gallantly performing his duty as express carrier in the service of the quartermaster's department at Monterey, Mexico, lost his arm from a wound received on the night of the 22d of February, 1847. It having been ascertained that Colonel Erwin, with a small force of Ohio volunteers, on their way to join General Taylor, previous to the battle of Buena Vista, were shut up in the town of Marin, twenty-five miles north of Monterey, surrounded by a large body of the enemy, it was of the highest importance that information should reach the colonel of the contemplated relief intended to be sent next morning. To convey this information, (a service full of danger,) the petitioner promptly volunteered, and after gallantly running the *gauntlet*, was fired upon, while entering the town, by our own sentinels, and wounded in such a manner as to render immediate amputation of his left arm, near the shoulder, necessary; thereby, in the opinion of the assistant surgeon of the United States army at Monterey, rendering him totally disabled from obtaining his subsistence. Major General Taylor and other officers of the army, testify to the gallantry of the petitioner, and to the importance of the services he thus rendered in the line of his duty, and strongly recommend that a pension be granted to him.

The committee are of opinion that, although this case is not embraced by the letter of the laws granting pensions to disabled soldiers of the United States army, it comes within the spirit of said laws; and considering the disability of the petitioner, occasioned by the dangerous amputation of his left arm, and the very extraordinary services rendered by him at a critical juncture, think him entitled to a pension, and report a bill for his relief.

